

# CROP DEVELOPMENT 2005

Illinois farmers had ideal planting conditions through April and May which enabled the corn and soybeans to be planted at a record pace. A late spring frost blanketed much of the State requiring some replanting. Soil moisture declined from mid-June until August because of drought-like conditions. Warm temperatures and very timely rains helped crop development during the later part of the growing season. Yields for corn, soybeans, and sorghum all declined because of the crop stress put on by the drought in 2005.

The crop production index for 2005 was down 24 points from the previous year to 132 percent of the 1977 base. The drought of 2005 helped pull down the crop index. Corn production totaled 1.709 billion bushels in 2005, 18 percent less than the previous year. The final yield was 143 bushels per acre, 37 bushels below the previous year's record yield of 180 bushels per acre. The yield for the 2005 soybean crop was 47 bushels per acre, 3 bushels below the 2004 record yield of 50 bushels per acre. Production totaled 444 million bushels, 10 percent below the previous year.

The 2005 yield for sorghum for grain was 92 bushels per acre, 17 bushels below the yield in 2004. Sorghum production, at 7.64 million bushels, was down 15 percent from the previous year. The yield for the 2005 winter wheat crop was 61 bushels per acre, 2 bushels above the previous year. Total production was 36.6 million bushels, a 31 percent decrease from the 2004 production of 53.1 million bushels. The oats yield, at 79 bushels per acre, was up 9 bushels above the 2004 yield. Production of all hay in 2005 was 2.16 million tons, 16 percent below 2004. Alfalfa hay production was down 19 percent to 1.4 million tons. All other hay production decreased 10 percent to 759 thousand tons. Alfalfa yields decreased from 4.3 to 3.5 tons per acre and all other hay yields declined from 2.4 to 2.3 tons per acre.

**CROP PRODUCTION INDEX, 1975-2005**

Year	Index 1/	Year	Index 1/	Year	Index 1/
1975	100	1985	120	1995	102
1976	95	1986	112	1996	118
1977	100	1987	99	1997	121
1978	97	1988	66	1998	127
1979	114	1989	110	1999	124
1980	92	1990	109	2000	133
1981	113	1991	99	2001	134
1982	115	1992	128	2002	124
1983	66	1993	112	2003	129
1984	97	1994	136	2004	156
				2005	132

1/ 1977=100.

**CROP PRODUCTION INDEX**  
1975-2005 (1977=100)

